

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended)

A toner comprising:

a crystalline compound comprising crystalline polyester; a binding resin; and a coloring agent,

wherein a differential heat quantity curve measured by a differential scanning calorimeter has a clear endothermic peak at 50 to 100°C in a first temperature rising process, and in a second temperature rising process, a peak area of the endothermic peak is reduced by 1/3 or less with respect to the peak area of the endothermic peak in the first temperature rising process.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended)

The toner of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the binding resin comprises a monomer having a carboxyl group, and an acid value of the crystalline polyester is from 1 to 8 mg/KOH.

4. (Currently Amended)

The toner of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein a peak value of the endothermic peak is 5J/g or more in the first temperature rising process, and is less than 0.7J/g in the second temperature rising process.

5. (Currently Amended)

The toner of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein a melt viscosity, which is a melt viscosity at a melting point + 20°C, of the crystalline polyester is 300 dPa·s or less.

6. (Currently Amended)

The toner of claim ~~2~~ 5, wherein a peak temperature of endothermic peak of which the peak area is reduced in the second temperature rising process is from 55 to 70°C in the first temperature rising process.

7. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, wherein a peak temperature is in the first temperature rising process of the endothermic peak of which the peak area is reduced in the second temperature rising process is from 55 to 70°C.

8. (Original)

The toner of claim 7, wherein the peak temperature of the endothermic peak in the first temperature rising process is from 58 to 65°C.

9. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, wherein the toner is obtained by associating fine particles formed by polymerizing a monomer composition comprising the crystalline compound and a polymerizable monomer in an aqueous phase.

10. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, comprising a chromatic color coloring agent.

11. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, wherein a peak value of the endothermic peak in the first temperature rising process is 2 J/g or more.

12. (Original)

The toner of claim 11, wherein the peak value of the endothermic peak is 5 J/g or more.

13. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, wherein a peak value of the endothermic peak in the first temperature rising process becomes less than 0.7 J/g in the second temperature rising process.

14. (Original)

The toner of claim 13, wherein the peak value of the endothermic peak becomes less than 0.5 J/g in the second temperature rising process.

15. (Original)

The toner of claim 1, wherein number average molecular weight of the crystalline compound is from 1500 to 15,000.

16. (Previously Presented)

An image forming method comprising:

developing a latent image on a photoreceptor with the toner as defined in claim 1 to form a toner image; and

fixing the toner onto an image support by heat.

17. (Previously Presented)

The image forming method of claim 16, comprising:

developing latent images with toners including a black toner and a chromatic toner to form toner images, wherein at least one of the toners are the toner as defined in claim 1; and

forming a color image by overlapping toner images.

18. (Previously Presented)

The image forming method of claim 16, comprising:

developing latent images with toners including a black toner and a chromatic toner to form toner images, wherein at least one of the toners are the toner as defined in claim 1; and

forming a color image by overlapping toner images.